

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 /069 W

----- 103871

O R 181534Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2189

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

USELM LIVE OAK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13335

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, UR, WB, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: AUGUST 13 INCIDENT IN SOUTH CORRIDOR

REF: USBERLIN 1660

1. AT TRIPARTITE MEETING AUGUST 18, BONN GROUP REPS
AGREED TO RECOMMEND THAT SIMULTANEOUS PROTESTS BE MADE
IN WASHINGTON, LONDON, AND PARIS AT HIGH LEVELS. IF
CAPITALS APPROVE THE AGREED TEXT BY COB TUESDAY,
AUGUST 19, TRIPARTITE REPS WILL COORDINATE ONCE MORE
ON AUGUST 20 WITH A VIEW TO MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR
PROTESTS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE END OF THIS WEEK.

2. REPS CONSIDERED THE SUGGESTION THAT THE PROTEST
MAKE REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF FLYING AT ALTI-
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TUDES ABOVE 10,000 FEET (REFTEL) BUT CONCLUDED IT

WAS PREFERABLE SIMPLY TO PLACE THE BURDEN ON THE SOVIETS FOR ELIMINATING SAFETY HAZARDS. TO SUGGEST ALTERNATIVES MIGHT INVITE THE SOVIETS TO CALL FOR RE-NEGOTIATION OF THE AIR REGIME. (IN NOT ACTIVELY PRESSING THE IDEA, THE US REPS ALSO HAD IN MIND OUR SINGULAR LACK OF SUCCESS, DURING THE JUNE 1973 CIVIL AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS, IN GETTING THE SOVIETS TO AGREE NOT TO OBJECT TO FLIGHTS ABOVE 10,000 FEET, AS REPORTED IN STATE 119693 AND 127469 OF 1973.)

3. TEXT OF AD REF PROTEST FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT. THE US (UK) (FRENCH) GOVERNMENT WISHES TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO SIX SERIOUS INCIDENTS IN THE BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS IN RECENT MONTHS IN WHICH SOVIET AIRCRAFT CAME DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO ALLIED AIRCRAFT FLYING IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROPERLY-FILED FLIGHT PLANS. THE INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE ON DECEMBER 23, 1974, AND MARCH 17, MAY 5, MAY 7, JULY 25, AND AUGUST 13, 1975. IN EACH CASE THE ALLIED MISSIONS PROTESTED TO THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES IN BERLIN ABOUT THE UNSAFE AND IMPROPER FLIGHT IN THE CORRIDORS BY THESE SOVIET AIRCRAFT.

THE US (UK) (FRENCH) GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THE CONCERN EXPRESSED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS BY THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES IN BERLIN FOR AIR SAFETY IN THE CORRIDORS AND THEIR ASSURANCES THAT THERE WAS NO POLITICAL MOTIVE FOR THE DANGEROUS ACTIONS OF THE SOVIET AIRCRAFT INVOLVED. NEVERTHELESS, THE INCIDENTS HAVE NOT BEEN SATISFACTORILY EXPLAINED, AND THEIR FREQUENCY AND SERIOUSNESS ARE A MATTER OF INCREASING CONCERN TO MY GOVERNMENT. THE CONTINUED SOVIET VIOLATION OF LONG-STANDING AGREEMENTS AND PRACTICES REGARDING FLIGHT IN THE AIR CORRIDORS PUTS INNOCENT LIVES AT RISK. MY GOVERNMENT WISHES TO STRESS THAT ANY ACCIDENT RESULTING FROM SUCH VIOLATIONS WILL BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SOVIET UNION. THE THREE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS LOOK TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO INSURE THAT ITS AIRCRAFT DO NOT IN THE FUTURE JEOPARDIZE THE SAFETY OF FLIGHTS IN THE BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS. END TEXT.

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4. ACTION REQUESTED. RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE IN ABOVE TEXT AND AGREEMENT TO DELIVERING IT IN WASHINGTON.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR SAFETY, BERLIN TRIPARTITE MATTERS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D750284-1164
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
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Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, UR, WB, US, UK, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006